6. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Palanpur Distt. Mehansana.

Elimination of child Labour

80. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would furnish an update on its efforts to eliminate child labour in phased manner in deference to the directives of ILO and other international rights organisations;

(b) what has been the progress made on phasing out child labour in carpet, glass, fireworks/matches, hosiery/ garments sectors giving status on each sector; and

(c) whether the Labour Ministry has any plans to co-sponsor educational programmes/projects aimed at weaning away child labour and to equip them with literacy and vocational skills?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) India, being a founder member of ILO, would be required, from time to time, to provide information on progress of implementation of various Conventions ratified by India including on the Conventions relating to child labour.

(b) Under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme of the Ministry of Labour projects *inter-alia* cover the followings sectors:

Sector	Children covered
Glass	1500
Brassware	500
Locks	500
Carpet	2950
Slate	1900
Tile	100
Match & Fire Works	2350
Gem polishing	1000
Agriculture/ Chemicals	2000
Beedi	3000

The National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour has also identified 100 districts which have the highest incidence of Child Labour in the country.

It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. Under this scheme children withdrawn from work will be provided with primary level education, vocational training, nutrition and stipends through the special schools. A workshop of these 100 District Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on September 13,14, 1995. The concerned Collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals in their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme I. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current year to undertake projects for children withdrawn from work.

(c) A major activity undertaken under the NCLP is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are also being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under Grants-in-aid Scheme.

Foreign exchange loss due to poor packaging of products.

81. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of foreign exchange loss suffered by the country due to rejections, spoilage and breakages arising from poor packaging of engineering and marine products, garments, handicrafts, fresh fruit and vegetables, during each of the last three years and so far in 1995 and the quantity

and value of each product damaged during the said period; and

(b) what steps Government taken or propose to take to impress upon the exporters, manufacturers to check and improve the quality of packaging and protect the contents against multitransport and repeated handling hazards, before the goods are exported from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) As per information available with the concerned Export Promoption Councils, no specific report has so far been received by them about loss of foreign exchange due to poor packaging of these products.

(b) The Government through its vairous export promotion councils and other institutions encourages Indian exporters through training programmes, Seminars, Workshops and exhibitions to improve the quality of packaging to be of internaitonal standards. The services of the Indian Institute of Packaging are also used to disseminate latest technologies concerning packaging to the exporters. APEDA has also developed standard packaging for a number of fresh fruits and vegetable products and gives financial assistance to any exporter who develops packaging for specific products as per buyers requirements.

Assistance to States from Consumer Welfare Fund

82. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any assistance to States from Consumer Welfare Fund for the year 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to provide assistance to the States during the year 1995-96 from the Consumer Welfare Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Proposals received from various Association/ Consumer organisaitons/State Governments have been considered.

(b) The total amount approved/ sanctioned Statewise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As at Annexure.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise approved/sanctioned fund position from the CWF during 1994-95 and 1995-96

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	1994-95	1995-96	Grant Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000	5,96,880	10,96,880
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	72,000	—	72,000
4.	Bihar	—	1,40,000	1,40,000
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	11,04,250	3,73,400	14,77,650
7.	Haryana	—	1,71,000	1,71,000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1,22,580	1,22,580
9.	J & K	—	—	—